

Message Text

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60

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SSC-01 /061 W

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R 241600Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5690

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 3626

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, EC

SUBJECT: GOE CABINET CHANGES

1. EVENING MAY 23 GOE SEC GEN FOR ADMINISTRATION, GENERAL CARLOS AGUIRRE, ANNOUNCED FOLLOWING CABINET CHANGES TO TAKE EFFECT MAY 26:

GENERAL GUILLERMO DURAN ARCENTALES, CURRENTLY MINISTER OF EDUCATION, TO BE MINISTER OF GOVERNMENT REPLACING ADMIRAL ALFREDO POVEDA BURBANO.

GENERAL GUSTAVO VASCONEZ VASCONEZ, CURRENTLY CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMY, TO BE MINISTER OF EDUCATION REPLACING GENERAL DURAN.

2. GENERAL AGUIRRE ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT AS PART OF THIS SHIFT ABMIRAL POVEDA WOULD BECOME THE NEW COMMANDER OF THE ECUADOREAN NAVY FILLING VACANCY CREATED WEEK EARLIER WHEN FORMER CNO ADMIRAL VASQUEZ WAS MOVED UP TO POSITION OF CHIEF OF THE JOINT COMMAND.

3. COMMENT: NET EFFECT OF ANNOUNCED CHANGES IS TO GIVE ARMY ADDITIONAL CABINET SLOT AT EXPENSE OF NAVY, LEAVING NAVY AND AIRFORCE WITH ONLY ONE CABINET POSITION EACH. CHANGES ALSO SEEM TO POINT TO FURTHER CONSOLIDATION OF PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ' PERSONAL POSITION, CONFIDENTIAL

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AS DURAN IS CONSIDERED TO BE ONE OF HIS MORE DEVOTED

SUPPORTERS. LIKEWISE, NEW CNO POVEDA, IS PROBABLY
THE MOST LOYAL RODRIGUEZ SUPPORTER OF THE THREE
CANDIDATES (POVEDA, ORTEGA AND OLMEIDO) KNOWN TO HAVE
BEEN ACTIVELY CONSIDERED FOR THE JOB.
HEMENWAY

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NNN

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